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POLAND ADOPTS ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY IN METALLURGY

REORGANIZES, EXPANDS METALLURGICAL INDUSTRY -- Rzeczpospolita, No 109, 21 Apr 50

The Six-Year Plan envisages complete reorganization of the metallurgical industry. The plan attaches great importance to raw materials. Particular emphasis will be placed on improving the quality of coke for blast furnaces.

Coke produced before the war was suitable only for low furnaces with small capacities. The new coke-oven technology of the Six-Year Plan will make it possible to increase the average capacity of blast furnaces nearly twofold. Large units will be built similar to those in the USSR. In the last stage of the plan, furnace efficiency will be increased by 36 percent and productivity by 50 percent.

Of great importance to metallurgy will be the development of domestic sources of raw materials. Poland has great amounts of acid ores and ferruginous sand which have not, up to now, been exploited. By the use of coal briquettes, blast furances will operate with an acid slag, and use domestic ores of high silica content.

During the Six-Year Plan, Poland's steel production will be expanded further. The capacity of open-hearth furnaces will increase manyfold. Modern technical equipment will be installed in old steel mills and heavy work will be mechanized. The latest Soviet technology, permitting the use of a higher proportion of pig iron in the charge and cutting down on the use of scrap metal, will make Poland self-sufficient in this scarce raw material.

In new steel mills, floor charge loaders will be used exclusively instead of currently used overhead crane loaders. This will increase the productivity of some open-hearth steel mills by nearly 50 percent. A great step forward will be made in mastering the production technology of better quality structural steels, resulting in reduced steel consumption through the use of lighter and cheaper structural steel shapes.

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The rolling mills will also be expanded in accordance with the Six-Year Plan. Three modern processes and a number of continuous rolling mills will be installed. The percentage of stamped ingots will increase in 1955 to 70 percent of the total amount of rolled steel. A number of rolling mills and stamping mills will be electrified, resulting in a 20-percent increase in the speed of rolling operations. In the period from 1950 to 1955, the production of rolled products from alloyed steel will increase by 130 percent. Production will begin on new types of section iron for the automotive, railroad, shipbuilding, and other industries.

In the processing industry under the Six-Year Plan, machine shops will be built and equipped with modern heavy equipment adapted to the construction of the heaviest metallurgical equipment. Mechanized processes will increase 50 percent in steel foundries and 90 percent in iron foundries. Productivity per unit of floor space will increase 50 percent for cast steel and 20 percent for cast iron. The productivity of moulders will increase 15 percent for steel founding, and 10 percent for iron founding. New technology will be adopted for the production of special kinds of cast iron, e.g., modified cast iron to replace cast steel or malleable iron.

The Six-Year Plan will put Poland in seventh place instead of fourteenth in the world in per-capita consumption of steel.

BUILD METAL PLANT -- Express Wieczorny, No 113, 25 Apr 50

Betonstal and Mostostal construction enterprises are beginning the initial work on construction of the Nowa Huta (metallurgical plant), located in the vicinity of Krakow.

PLAN NEW METAL PLANT NEAR KRAKOW -- Trybuna Ludu, No 119, 1 May 50

The southeast part of Poland is not industrially developed. The only industrial cities are Jaworzno, Chrzanow, Oswiecim, Biala, and Krakow. There are over 300,000 small farmsteads here, of which 200,000 are just 2-hectare farms. The surplus manpower here is estimated at 140,000.

The construction of Nowa Huta, east of Krakow, requires an expansion of railroad lines, laying hundreds of kilometers of railroad track, construction of highways, and building a port on the Wisla River on the water route between Slask and the Nowa Huta. The new city of 100,000 inhabitants will require a water system providing 23,000 cubic meters of water per day. The plant itself will use 12 cubic meters of water per second, and will require a special water system connected with the Wisla River.

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